1-1-1993 were extracted out 64,595 million tonnes. Out of this 13,626 million tonnes are considered to be exploitable by opencast mining and 17,212 million tonnes by underground

Theft in Western Coal Fields Ltd. in Maharashtra

7341. SHRISATISHPRADHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been a large number of thefts in Western Coal Fields Ltd., in Maharash tra;

(b) whether the details of the persons involved and their modus operandi have been brought to the attention of Government; and

(c) whether it is a fact that such a complaint has been lodged with CBI and if so what is the outcome of the CBI enquiry.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) No large scale theft have been reported from Western Coafields Limited in Maharashtra. However, action taken on coal/other materials reported stolen as per details given in the table below:

Year	Total number of theft cases		No. of FIRs lodged		No, of persons arrested	
	Coal	Other materials	Coal	Other materials	Coal	Other mat?ria.s
1992-93	29	24	29	24	38	5
1993-94	14	22	14	22	15	1 4

FIRs as indicated above were lodged and all the persons involved in the various FIRs are legally proceeded against by th concerned Police Authorities.

(c) Does not arise.

Agreement Between ECL and Metchem

7342. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Eastern Coal-fields Ltd. (ECL) has entered into an agreement with Met-Chem the US steel linked Canadian Multi-national Co.;

(b) if so, what is the total worth of the project;

(c) whether it is a fa ct that Met-chem as per the agreement is the consultant collaborator, middleman as well as the purchaser; and

(d) if so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The expansion of Rajmahal Project from. 5 million tonnes to 10.5 million tonnes per annum has been undertaken with Canadian assistance. The contract for implementation of this project was concluded in January, 1989 between Coal India Limited and Canadian Commercial Corporation, a Canadian. Government Agency. Broad scope of assistance by Canadian Commercial Corporation includes Management and Technical Services; Cost control and Project scheduling; Construction